

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785

P.O. Box 837
South Windsor, CT 06074
October 21, 2000 10:40
98P-0151

SUBJECT: DOWNED ANIMAL TRADE/DOCKET # 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Madam or Sir:

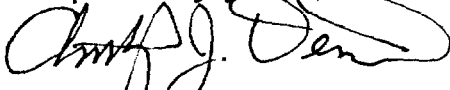
I am writing to urge you to grant the petition of Farm Sanctuary, a non-profit group, to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals (docket number 98P-0151/CP1). As an attorney and an educated consumer who has read a lot about the topic, I am very concerned about the increased risk of bacterial contamination when downed animals are allowed to enter the human food chain. I understand that there is a risk in particular of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease entering the food chain in this manner. This is a truly horrifying and tragic illness that we should prevent from breaking out in the United States.

From a humanitarian perspective, the FDA's attitude toward the use of downed animals is also very ethically troubling to me and my family. Downed animals, by the very nature of their pitiable condition, cannot be moved or carted in a humane manner. They must be forklifted or shoveled by machinery from place to place, thereby causing great suffering to the animals involved. This kind of practice should not be permitted to continue in a civilized and well-developed society such as ours. Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented by better care and other common sense measures. Removing the market for downed animals will incent the farm industry to take better care of their animals.

Please grant Farm Sanctuary's petition prohibiting the slaughter of downed animals.

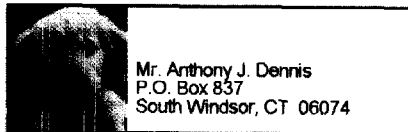
Thank you.

Respectfully yours,


Anthony J. Dennis, Esq.

98P-0151

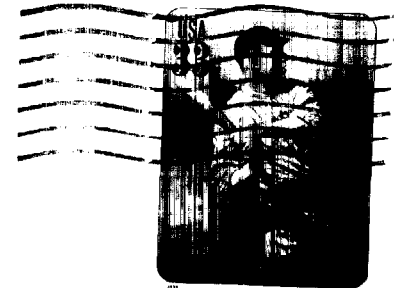
C 25-08



Mr. Anthony J. Dennis
P.O. Box 837
South Windsor, CT 06074

HFW
305

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785



20882/1750

